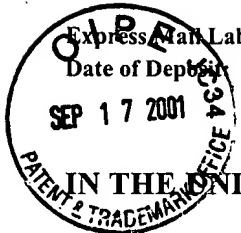


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Attorney Docket No. 15966-577 (Cura-77)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICANTS: Shimkets *et al.*
SERIAL NUMBER: 09/662,783
EXAMINER: Dong Jiang
FILING DATE: September 12, 2000
ART UNIT: 1646
FOR: Growth Factor Polypeptides and Nucleic Acids Encoding Same

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), applicants hereby petition for a one (1) month extension of time for replying to the Office Action mailed July 17, 2001. With the extension, the present papers are due on or before September 17, 2001. A check in the amount of \$55.00 is enclosed herewith.

The Examiner is authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due, or to credit any overpayment, to the undersigned's account, Deposit Account No. 50-0311, reference no. 15966-577. A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 17, 2001

Ivor R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 39,529
David E. Johnson, Reg. No. 41,874
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